



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Monday, July 25, 2016

Committee Members in Attendance:

Cecil Bothwell, Brian Haynes, Julie Mayfield

Guests in Attendance:

Tim Sadler, Byron Greiner, Abby Roach, Sabra N'ha Raven

Staff in Attendance:

Deputy Chief Jim Baumstark, Alex Carmichael, Paul Fetherston, Dana Frankel, Christina Hallingse, Assistant Chief Wayne Hamilton, Chief Barry Hendren, Chief Tammy Hooper, Polly McDaniel, John Maddux, Todd Okolichany

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bothwell called the meeting to order at 3:33 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF JUNE MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of 6/27/2016 were approved on Councilman Haynes's motion, Councilwoman Mayfield's second on a 3-0 vote.

3. UPDATES

a. Downtown Public Space Management

Assistant City Manager Paul Fetherston

Assistant City Manager Paul Fetherston updated the Committee on the time lines for short term and long term pilot proposals following the June public forum on Downtown Public Space Management. Staff will continue dialog with stakeholders and return in August to propose a short term pilot that focuses on High Impact Areas and does not include scheduling. Staff will continue to develop a long term proposal with anticipated recommendation in October of 2017 and execution in April 2017.

4. New Business

a. Buncombe Madison Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Approval & Adoption

Assistant Fire Chief Wayne Hamilton

Assistant Fire Chief Wayne Hamilton presented a partnership agreement that would that would broaden the regional approach to hazard mitigation. The proposal is a specific agreement with Madison County, which also contains a major transportation corridor.

b. APD Use of Force

Chief Tammy Hooper discussed the Police Department's policy update process, as proposed in the Matrix Report. Twenty-five of the Department's policies have been revised since Chief Hooper began with the Department. The Department is looking at CAYLEA standards and best practices, and has already discussed forming a working group of 10-12 people to provide input on the Use of Force Policy. The meetings could begin in the next few weeks and a draft could be ready in 30-45 days.

Councilwoman Julie Mayfield asked if the Pursuit Policy was part of this proposal. Chief Hooper answered that the Pursuit Policy had already been completed.

Chairman Bothwell invited James Lee to speak on behalf of the Racial Justice Coalition (RJC). The RJC represents 13 organizations and advocates for the rights of people of color. He spoke in order to propose a temporary Law Enforcement Policy and Procedure Task Force to ensure unbiased processes. The Task Force could continue ongoing review in the future. Mr. Lee commended Chief Hooper for being open and transparent, but the RJC feels it is important to get out ahead of the SBI investigation's findings.

Councilwoman Mayfield asked if Mr. Lee's proposal aligned with the Chief's working group proposal. He responded that it did.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Timothy Sadler spoke in favor of making a taskforce that is an official body within the City Government. Mr. Sadler also spoke in favor of removing lethal force authority from the department all together.

Chairman Bothwell expressed concern over making the working group a formal board. That process would take months, but the RJC could move swiftly. Councilwoman Mayfield said that it would begin as an informal working group, but could evolve into a formal body.

Sabra N'ha Raven spoke about the officers standing guard at the building entrance. She said that people are already afraid to come to the Police Department. She said that a meeting that is supposed to be open to the public should not have such barriers.

Chief Hooper said that security had been enhanced to ensure the safety of the Force. As long as there is a continued possibility of occupation of the building, the building would continue to be on lockdown.

Chairman Bothwell commended the Police for handling the occupation well.

Councilwoman Mayfield thanked those that played leadership roles in the community.

6. ADJOURN

Chairman Bothwell adjourned the meeting at 4:08 PM without objection.